

2016 Legislative Agenda

Local Government Aid Funding

The City of Minneapolis supports the current Local Government Aid (LGA) program and formula as modified in 2013, including increases to the LGA appropriation and other resources to local governments.

Property Tax Relief

The City of Minneapolis supports funding for homeowner and renter direct property tax relief programs.

Public Pensions

The City of Minneapolis supports long-term viability of all state-wide public pension funds without overburdening local governments.

Capital Investment

10th Avenue Bridge Rehabilitation:

\$31.875 million to design and construct a major rehabilitation of the 10th Avenue SE Bridge over the Mississippi River between West River Parkway and 2nd Street SE located in the City of Minneapolis. The project will address the ongoing deterioration of concrete on the spandrel columns, floor beams, arches, and bridge deck. It will also restore the historic structure and add a minimum of 40 years to its useful life.

Emergency Operations and Training Facility Expansion:

\$2.5 million to support the expansion and enhancement of the Regional Emergency Operations and Training Facility (EOTF). The EOTF is a multi-agency public safety facility used to train first responders, fire professionals, law enforcement officials, technical rescue and hazardous materials specialists, as well as state and federal incident management personnel. New capabilities of the expanded facility will include rail disaster response training, urban search and rescue, structural collapse, and confined space rescue.

Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery Fence Restoration:

\$1.029 million to help complete the \$3.32 million fence restoration project that will help protect the public face of this landmark, significant to the State of Minnesota. Pioneers and Soldiers, originally known as Layman's Cemetery, was established in 1853. It is the oldest surviving cemetery in Minneapolis, the final resting place for over 20,000 individuals, and one of the few surviving features from the city's first period of settlement. This local Minneapolis landmark is also the only cemetery in Minnesota listed as an individual landmark on the National Register of Historic Places.

Transportation

The City supports full state funding for the I-35W and Lake Street Transit/Access project, which will leverage significant federal resources, ensure the timely completion of other related projects, and increase access to jobs and educational opportunities through improved and expanded transit service to currently underserved communities in Minneapolis.

The City of Minneapolis supports new and sustainable funding for multi-modal transit, roads, and bridges, and secure financial resources to meet both the capital and operational needs of the expanding regional transit and transportation systems.

The City supports a comprehensive transportation bill that provides cities throughout Minnesota with the resources necessary to preserve investments and meet the transportation and transit needs of residents, visitors, and business.

The City supports more direct accountability to voters and local government by enhancing the role for cities in the process of determining these key transportation and transit investments.

Municipal Governance

The City of Minneapolis supports efforts to maintain or enhance local governance, and opposes efforts by the legislature to interfere in local government decision making authority.

Public Safety

The City of Minneapolis supports legislation to prohibit motor carriers of passengers from allowing or permitting nude adult entertainment or consumption by a minor to occur onboard, and conditioning the renewal or maintenance of their certificates of registration with the Commissioner of Transportation upon compliance.

The City supports making the Driver Diversion Program permanent, expand the program statewide, and modify the eligibility criteria to increase access to the program.

The City supports requiring criminal background checks on all gun sales.

Data Practices

The City of Minneapolis supports legislation that balances the privacy rights of individuals with the use of technology to improve public safety in our communities.

Jobs and Workforce Development

The City of Minneapolis supports increased funding for youth employment programs, including the Minnesota Youth Program and the Youth Workforce Development Grant Program to ensure that youth, especially low income youth and youth of color, in Minneapolis and across the state have access to vital employment opportunities that create pathways for successful careers.

Eliminating Racial Disparities

The City of Minneapolis supports state-level policy and funding proposals that work to eliminate racial disparities in the areas of Early Childhood Education, Public Health, Housing, Building Wealth, Workforce Development, Employment Access and Workplace Policies, Capital Investments, and Certification, Procurement, and Business Development.

As amended by the City Council on April 1, 2016.